



## **3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide Parent Conference**

### **“Proud Parents, Proud Kids – Self-Esteem: Feeling Good About Me!”**

**March 11 – 13, 2005**  
**Kalahari Resort, Wisconsin Dells**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide Parent Conference is scheduled for March 11 – 13, 2005 at the fabulous Kalahari Resort and Waterpark in the Wisconsin Dells. The goal of the conference is to bring families of children who are deaf, hard of hearing, and deafblind together in a supportive, educational, and enjoyable atmosphere. The conference offers you the opportunity for valuable personal contact with parents and children from around the state of Wisconsin, as well as professionals in the field through workshops and vendor exhibits. The conference is designed with many fun, educational activities to support your family's development and growth. This is an exciting opportunity for parents and children to learn, share and express ideas to encourage positive self-esteem in your child(ren) and your family. Please join us in March and see how you can enrich your family and those lives around you.

### **Comments from Last Year's Conference....**

“This conference is so good I don't know where to begin. Just the opportunity to meet and share stories with other parents is so important.”

“I've always known there are many other Deaf / Hard of Hearing families out there, but this really put it into reality that I'm not alone with my daughter.”

“Thank you for all the information given this year. I am walking away with some great information and a couple new friends. My son also had a great time meeting new friends and seeing other children with cochlear implants and who are deaf adults with hearing aids.”

“There was lots of love in the whole program.”

### **Key Dates and Information**

- Early Bird Registration Fee - \$50 before 1/7/05
- Regular Conference Registration Fee - \$75 after 1/8/05
- Return Registration by 2/22/05 at the latest
- Parents are responsible for making their own lodging reservations at Kalahari Resort
- Limited number of room held until 2/10/05
- Confirmation letters will be mailed out upon receipt of funds and registration form prior to conference
- Questions? Contact Marcy Dropkin at 262-787-9540 or [marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov](mailto:marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov)
- You can also register on-line at our website: [www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov](http://www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov)

## Tentative Conference Schedule

### Friday, March 11, 2005

- 4:00-6:00 p.m.      **Registration**
- 6:00 – 7:00 p.m.      **Dinner and Ice-Breakers**
- 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.      **Family Fun!**  
Enjoy the Kalahari Waterpark with your family.  
Bedtime Stories for all!

### Saturday, March 12, 2005

- 7:00-8:00 a.m.      **Breakfast / Late Arrival Registration**
- 8:00 – 8:30 a.m.      **Child care drop-off**
- 8:30 -10:30 a.m.      **Welcome, Announcements and Keynote Address: Heidi Zimmer** – Heidi is a Deaf woman, with Usher's Syndrome, whose goal is to climb each of the seven summits (the highest peak in each continent). Thus far, she has climbed three of the seven summits. Her goal is to be the first Deaf person to climb all seven! Be inspired by Heidi's goals and her strong identity as a deaf person who is also losing her sight. Learn more by visiting her website: [http://www.heidizimmer.com/seven\\_summits.htm](http://www.heidizimmer.com/seven_summits.htm)
- 10:30-10:45 a.m.      **Break**
- 10:45- 12:00 p.m.      **Breakout Workshop Sessions**
- 12:00 – 1:00 p.m.      **Lunch**
- 1:15–2:30 p.m.      **Breakout Workshop Sessions**
- 2:30-2:45 p.m.      **Break**
- 2:45-4:00 p.m.      **For Mom's Only/For Dad's Only**
- 4:00 – 4:30 p.m.      **Childcare Pickup**
- 4:00-6:00 p.m.      **Family Time / Vendor Demonstrations**
- 6:00 p.m.      **Dinner**
- 7:00 p.m.      **Family Entertainment**

**Sunday, March 13, 2005**

7:00-8:00 a.m.	<b>Light Morning Breakfast</b>
8:00 – 8:30 a.m.	<b>Childcare drop-off</b>
8:30-10:00 a.m.	<b>Panel Discussion</b> - “I Can Do It!” Young Deaf and hard of hearing adults discuss their successes...
10:00 -10:30 a.m.	<b>Break/Checkout</b>
10:30-11:45 a.m.	<b>Breakout Workshop Sessions</b>
11:45 -12:15 p.m.	<b>Hands and Voices Update</b>
12:15 p.m.	<b>Children join families for lunch</b>
12:15 – 1:15 p.m.	<b>Family Lunch, and Slide Show</b>

**For the children:** Childcare, activities and children’s workshops will be offered during all parent activities and sessions.

**A Sampling of Workshops....**

- Negotiation Skills for the Individualized Educational Plan (IEP) Team Meeting
- Self-Esteem Issues for Hard of Hearing Children
- Building Positive Self-Esteem Through Deaf Culture
- Working With Interpreters – Your Roles and Rights
- Effective Transitions for Young Children
- Beyond High School - Strategies for Effective Transition to the Workplace
- Developing IEP Goals to Support Your Child’s Self-Esteem
- Behavior Management and Social Development for Young Children
- Behavior Management and Social Development for Middle Schoolers and Teens
- What is Literacy?
- Sibling Workshops (for hearing siblings)
- “I Am Proud” – Workshops for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Youth

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### **Fees**

**Early Bird Registration** (prior to 1/7/05) fee for the conference is \$50.00 per family. **Regular conference registration fee** (for registrations postmarked between 1/8/05 – 2/22/05) is \$75.00. There is a \$10.00 per adult charge for any other adult you choose to bring with you. Children and childcare providers are free. This includes all social activities, workshops and meals from Friday evening through Sunday lunch. Families are responsible for their lodging costs (see Lodging below). If the cost of the conference is prohibitive, please contact Marcy Dropkin at (262) 787-9540 voice/tty or [marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov](mailto:marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov) to discuss arrangements. **We do not want anyone to miss this opportunity due to cost.**

### **Registration Information**

Complete and return the registration form by **2/22/05** to:  
Statewide Parent Conference  
WESP-Outreach  
Attn: Janet Smith  
19601 W. Bluemound Road, #200  
Brookfield, WI 53045

### **Accommodations**



What an exciting opportunity to enjoy the facilities of the **Kalahari** – in addition to having America's largest indoor waterpark, the Kalahari offers a variety of amenities during your stay, including a day spa, shopping, movie theater and special activities and events. For the conference rate of \$99 per night (regular rates start at \$239), families get free passes to the fabulous waterpark (regularly \$40 per person)! Learn more about the Kalahari by visiting their website: <http://www.kalahariresort.com/main.php>.

### **Lodging**

***Parents are responsible for their lodging. This includes making reservations and payment for the hotel room(s).*** There are a limited number of rooms **being held until 2/10/05** at the conference hotel with the state reduced conference rate of \$99 per night. Rooms can be reserved by contacting the hotel directly and mentioning the "Statewide Parent Conference" at the Kalahari Resort and Convention Center 1-877-253-5466. For more information about or directions to the Kalahari Resort, you can visit the website at <http://www.kalahariresort.com/main.php>. There are also several other hotels in the area. They can be found by calling the Wisconsin Dells Convention and Visitors Bureau at 1-800-223-3557 or visiting their website at [www.wisdells.com](http://www.wisdells.com).

### **Childcare**

We recommend that you bring a childcare provider at no additional registration fee. Meals will be included at no charge for this person. They can be a sibling, relative, or babysitter. We will have planned activities for the children with volunteers overseeing these events.

## Miscellaneous

Confirmation letters will be mailed upon receipt of funds and registration form.

## Questions?

If you have any questions regarding the conference, contact Marcy Dropkin at (262) 787-9540 voice/tty or email: [marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov](mailto:marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov). Please remember...we do not want anyone to miss this opportunity due to cost....limited scholarship monies are available - contact Marcy Dropkin to obtain scholarship monies.

You will not want to miss this opportunity to meet with families from around the state of Wisconsin who are planning on attending this conference!

## Don't forget....

- *3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Statewide Parent Conference - Kalahari Resort, March 11-13, 2005 – BE THERE!*
- *Early Bird Registration \$50 due by 1/7/05!*
- *Late registration accepted from 1/8/05 – 2/22/05. Registration fee is \$75.*
- *Parents are responsible for hotel reservations NOW at the Kalahari Resort! A block of rooms are being held for families until 2/10/05*
- *Parent Scholarships are available! Contact Marcy Dropkin, 262-787-9540 or [marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov](mailto:marcy.dropkin@wesp-dhh.wi.gov)*
- *Registration deadline is February 22, 2005!*
- *You can also register on-line by visiting our website: [www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov](http://www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov)*



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### Family Information:

Family Member's Name

Age

Deaf/Hard of Hearing/  
Deafblind/Hearing

_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Address:

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School District: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Special Dietary and/or medical needs (Please Describe):

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We would like to provide communication accessibility for the entire family. Please describe each family member's communication mode (sign system, use of voice, etc.) and/or special needs (including assistive technology, real time captioning, etc).

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Childcare provider:

☐ We will be bringing our own childcare provider

☐ We will not be bringing our own childcare provider and would like assistance in locating one.

Childcare Provider's Name

Age

Deaf/Hard of Hearing/  
Deaf-Blind/Hearing

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**Important Instructions:**

Make checks for \$50 (before 1/7/05) or \$75 (between 1/8/05 and 2/22/05) for the conference registration fee payable to WESPDDHH-Outreach. Return this registration form and check to:

Statewide Parent Conference

WESP-Outreach

Attn: Janet Smith

19601 W. Bluemound Road, #200

Brookfield, WI 53045

OR....REGISTER ON-LINE – [www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov](http://www.wesp-dhh.wi.gov)